### DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

## CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

KEITH M. KANESHIRO PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

ALII PLACE 1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 PHONE: (808) 547-7400 • FAX: (808) 547-7515

ARMINA A. CHING FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



# THE HONORABLE GILBERT S.C. KEITH-AGARAN, CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Twenty-sixth State Legislature Regular Session of 2012 State of Hawai'i

March 13 2012

## RE; S.B. 2492, S.D. 1; RELATING TO ANIMAL CRUELTY.

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Rhoads and members of the House Committee on Judiciary, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu submits the following testimony in support of Senate Bill 2492, Senate Draft 1.

The purpose of this bill is to establish a standard requirement for large-scale dog breeders. The Department agrees that it is necessary to establish such requirements, to ensure that the dogs are provided with humane care and treatment; and protect the public from purchasing unhealthy dogs. The bill also limits the total number of sexually intact dogs to thirty (30) per person, and states that violation of these laws would be a misdemeanor.

The Department believes that S.B. 2492, S.D. 1, would work alongside existing laws to prevent these specific forms of animal cruelty, and serve as a much-needed deterrent to those who may be inclined to over-breed or wrongfully breed dogs. For these reasons, we support the passage of S.B. 2492, S.D. 1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



TO: Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Rhoads and Committee Members

House Committee on Judiciary, 3-13-12 200pm, Rm 325

RE: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB2492 SD1 with amendments; Relating to Large-Scale Dog Breeders

Submitted by: Inga Gibson, Hawaii State Director, The Humane Society of the United States, P.O. Box 89131, Honolulu, HI 96830, igibson@hsus.org, 808-922-9910

We thank the Committee for considering this important measure to protect both dogs and consumers. Our organization has been involved in efforts in more than 20 states that have passed similar laws in the past 3 years to prevent the cruel treatment and exploitation of dogs, where sadly, profit is all too often put above welfare

Animal Welfare Concerns: Dogs at puppy mills, also known as large scale commercial breeding operations, typically receive little to no medical care, often live in squalid conditions with no exercise, socialization or human interaction and are confined inside cramped wire cages for life. Breeding dogs must endure constant breeding cycles and are typically confined for years on end, without ever becoming part of a family. The breeding "stock" live their entire lives confined to small cages, devoid of human companionship. They are often victims of filth, inadequate shelter, overcrowding, and insufficient food and water. They are bred repeatedly and often receive little or no veterinary care.

Furthermore, many of these large-scale dog breeding operations continue to produce litter after litter of puppies, exacerbating the pet overpopulation crisis; contributing to increased euthanasia rates at local animal shelters and increasing animal care and control costs to taxpayers.

Consumer Protection Concerns: Dogs from these large-scale breeders are often sold in pet stores, online, via newspaper ads and in some cases directly to consumers with little or no regard for the dog's health, genetic history or future welfare. Puppies are often taken from their mothers for sale to pet stores at approximately 8 weeks of age, when they are highly susceptible to contagious diseases such as parvovirus and are very sensitive to behavioral stress. Poor breeding practices can also lead to serious genetic problems such as hip dysplasia—an often painful and crippling disorder.

In addition, many unknowing consumers also purchase dogs with "Registry Papers" thinking that this ensures the health or temperament of the dog they are purchasing. However, the American Kennel Club (AKC), by its own admission, has stated that AKC papers, "in no way indicate the quality or state of health of the dog." No one should believe a dog is well-socialized, genetically sound, or healthy simply because he or she comes with registry papers. In several states, laws even mandate that consumers must be told that these registry papers do not guarantee health or even lineage. Unfortunately, consumers mistakenly believe that a high price for a dog means that the dog is healthy and well-socialized,

We support the amendments proposed by the Hawaiian Humane Society to clarify provisions to address concerns raised by responsible breeders who are already complying and or exceeding the basic health and care provisions proposed in this measure.

Again, we urge your support of SB2492 and the proposed clarifying amendments. .



## **Hawaiian Humane Society**

People For animals. Animals For people.

2700 Waialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826 808.946.2187 • hawaiianhumane.org

**Board of Directors** 

Francie Boland

iru of Directors

Chair

Shelley B. Thompson

Vice Chair

Ernest H. Fukeda, Jr.

Treasurer

Joyce Tomonari

Secretary

Pamela Burns President/CEO

Eric Ako, DVM

Robert R. Bean

Sharon Shiroma Brown

Gerri Cadiz

Bruce A. Coppa

Nicholas C. Dreher

Pamela Jones

Lynn y. Lally

Naomi Loewe

Stephen B. Metter

Norman M. Noguchi

Pauline M. Osborne

Mark Polivka

Lawrence D. Rodriguez

Ginny Tiu

Virginia S. Weinman

Mary H. Weyand

Rick Zwern

To:

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran

Vice-Chair Rhoads and Committee Members

House Committee on Judiciary

March 13, 2012, 2:00 pm, Room 325

Submitted by:

Natalie Lukashevsky, Community Outreach

Coordinator

Hawaiian Humane Society,

nlukashevsky@hawaijanhumane.org

Date:

March 12, 2012

RE:

Support SB 2492, SD1;

Relating to Animal Cruelty: Large-scale breeding

Dear Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Rhoads and Committee Members,

Across the nation we have become aware of appalling conditions at largescale dog breeding operations or "puppy mills" who are main suppliers to pet retailers at brick and mortar stores or online.

Recently, in February 2011, the Hawaiian Humane Society rescued 153 adult dogs from a large-scale breeding facility in Waimanalo where dogs were discovered living in abject filth, fur matted from years of confinement in excrement, without adequate water or nutrition, shelter, human interaction, exercise or socialization. For those who love animals and know the social nature of dogs, this type of cruelty is unimaginable.

This bill would provide protection for breeding dogs by outlining standards of care including nutrition, exercise and housing, and ensuring that an entity owning over 10 breeding animals keep appropriate and accurate records of veterinary treatment, inoculation and breeding frequency. Likewise, the consumer will be protected through accurate record-keeping and would be have the security in knowing that a dog is fit for breeding through proper veterinary medicine channels. It will prohibit entities from owning more than 30 dogs which would prevent a business from exploiting dozens of animals purely for profit as we saw in Waimanalo.

After further review and analysis we would like to offer the following amendments:



## Hawaiian Humane Society

People For animals. Animals For people.

2700 Waialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826 808.946,2187 • hawaiianhumane.org

#### **Board of Directors**

Francie Boland Chair

Shelley B. Thompson Vice Chair

Ernest H. Fukeda, Jr. Treasurer

Joyce Tomonari Secretary

Pamela Burns President/CEO

Eric Ako, DVM Robert R. Bean

Sharon Shiroma Brown

Gerri Cadiz

Bruce A. Coppa

Nicholas C. Dreher

Pamela Jones

Lynn Y. Lally

Naomi Loewe

Stephen B. Metter

Norman M. Noguchi

Pauline M. Osborne

Mark Polivka

Lawrence D. Rodriguez

Ginny Tiu

Virginia S. Weinman

Mary H. Weyand

Rick Zwern

- Page 3, lines 14 & 15, we recommend deleting "indoor floor space" and adding "dog's primary enclosure."
- Page 4, line 2 we recommend deleting "an indoor" and adding "a primary."
- Page 4, line 8 we recommend adding "cage or primary enclosure."
- Page 4, lines 11 & 12, we recommend deleting "(4) is not placed more than forty-two inches above the floor."
- Page 4, line 18 we recommend deleting "indoor."
- Page 5, line 2 we recommend adding "the tallest dog in the <u>primary</u> enclosure when it is in a."
- Page 5, line 5 we recommend deleting "indoor."
- Page 5, line 8 we recommend deleting "indoor."
- Page 5, line 11 we recommend deleting "indoor."
- Page 6, line 5 we recommend adding "than thirty dogs <u>per premise</u> with sexual organs each over the age of."
- Page 6, line 6 we recommend deleting "one year" and adding "six months."
- Page 6, line 9 we recommend adding "custody of more than ten dogs over the age of four months <u>per premise</u> with."
- Page 6, line 18 we recommend deleting "four" and adding "two."
- Page 6, line 21 we recommend adding "months per premise with intact sexual organs shall breed any dog unless the."
- Page 7, line 9 we recommend adding "months per premise with intact sexual organs shall maintain a record for."
- Page 8, line 20 we recommend adding "age of four months <u>per premise</u> with intact sexual organs shall place:"
- Page 9, lines 2 & 3 we recommend deleting ",except for breeding purposes."
- Page 9, line 7 we recommend deleting "Breeding" and adding "Nursing."

We would ask the committee to take special note of amendments further clarifying the definition of enclosures as "primary" in response to the concerns of dog fanciers who may use crates as temporary or transport enclosures. Secondly, also in response to the concerns of dog hobbyists/ fanciers co-owning dogs we have amended these portions of the bill to address only those who own more than 10 dogs on their premises.

More than 20 states have passed similar laws in the past several years to prevent this type of cruelty to dogs and to define minimal standards of care. We hope that Hawaii can be the next state to adopt legislation to protect these animals who are all too often exploited and abused for profit.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill and to suggest the amendments.



To:

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran

Vice-Chair Rhoads and Committee Members

House Committee on Judiciary

March 13, 2012, 2:00pm, Room 325

Submitted by: Donna Whitaker, Executive Director

Hawaii Island Humane Society

Date:

March 13, 2012

RE:

Support SB 2492, SD1

Relating to Animal Cruelty: Large Scale Breeding

Dear Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Rhoades and Committee Members:

The Hawaii Island Humane Society joins with the Hawaiian Humane Society in support of SB 2492, SD1 in order to better protect animals from inhumane conditions associated breeding operations.

This bill would provide much needed protection for breeding dogs by outlining standards of care including nutrition, exercise and housing, and ensuring that an entity owning over 10 breeding animals keep appropriate and accurate records on veterinary treatment, vaccinations, and breeding frequency. The consumers will also be protected through accurate record keeping and would know that a dog is fit for breeding through proper veterinary medicine channels. It will prohibit these operations from owning more than 30 dogs, which would prevent a business from exploiting countless animals.

Thank you for the opportunity to present to the committee and we respectfully ask for your support of this measure.



March 12, 2012

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary Hawaii House of Representatives 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

## Re. Oppose Senate Bill 2492

Dear Committee Members,

The American Kennel Club (AKC) has strong concerns with Senate Bill 2492, which will be heard in your committee. We previously expressed concerns with a similar bill, Senate Bill 2494, which contains many of the same provisions as SB2492.

We respectfully write on behalf of numerous responsible dog owners and breeders in Hawaii, and on behalf of citizens who, in the future, may wish to acquire a dog from a local, responsible breeder. We ask that you do not move SB2492 forward in its current form.

The AKC supports the humane treatment of dogs, including providing an adequate and nutritious diet, clean living conditions, regular veterinary care, kind and responsible human companionship, and training in appropriate behavior. The AKC supports reasonable and enforceable laws that protect the welfare and health of dogs without restricting the rights of owners and breeders who properly maintain their dogs.

The AKC opposes SB2492 for the following reasons:

- SB2492 contains numerous provisions that are detrimental to the responsible keeping and welfare of dogs.
- The burdensome provisions of this bill would apply to every owner of ten intact dogs over the age of four months, even if the owner breeds no litters and sell no puppies. Further, the provisions of the bill are not supported by the findings of the bill, which indicate a need to ensure proper care of dogs in "large scale breeding facilities." A person who breeds an occasional litter in the home, or even no litters at all, would inaccurately be considered a "large scale breeding facility" under this measure.
- SB2492 enacts problematic, vague breeding restrictions.
- This bill would prohibit owning more than 30 intact dogs over the age of one year. This provision is unnecessary and overreaching, as the number of dogs that may be maintained (regardless of reproductive status) is already addressed under local ordinances and zoning codes.

### Additional concerns with SB2492 include, but are not limited to:

• The bill's findings state that the bill's objective is to ensure that dogs are provided "the ability to move freely at least once per day." However, the definition of "regular exercise" in the bill requires that dogs be provided "constant and unfettered access to an outdoor or indoor exercise area" of a specified size. "Constant and unfettered access" to an outdoor exercise area could prove lethal to an aged or ill dog, expose dogs to danger from bad weather and predators, and would prevent a responsible owner from confining dogs indoors in the evenings so that barking and other noises do not create a nuisance.

- Because the provisions of the bill would apply to dog owners who own intact dogs and/or occasionally breed dogs in a home environment, the requirement to provide each dog with "constant and unfettered access" to indoor exercise areas of sufficient size to meet the requirements of the bill is unreasonable and largely unattainable.
- While the intent of the bill in ensuring that dogs are provided regular exercise is admirable and appropriate, the specific provisions are untenable. Instead, the bill should follow its own findings and require dog breeders to provide dogs with "the ability to move freely at least once per day." This would allow use of turn-out areas, playtime within the home, excursions to dog parks, and other breed/age/size appropriate solutions, rather than the problematic requirement for "unfettered access" to an enclosure 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- As SB2492 is written, it would be illegal for a person to utilize a dog crate for temporary confinement of a dog, for use in housetraining, and for myriad other standard practices among responsible dog owners. For example, the use of crate training for dogs, as described in the Hawaiian Humane Association's informational flyers, would be denied dog owners who fall under the provisions of this bill.
- A requirement to provide 12" of headroom above the tallest dog in an enclosure is arbitrary and unsupported. Likewise, a restriction that enclosures may be no more than 42" above the floor and a restriction on stacking enclosures are also arbitrary and unsupported. A requirement for impervious barriers between stacked enclosures would be appropriate.
- The AKC believes that breeding decisions should be made by a dog owner in consultation with a veterinarian. However, provisions of this bill would limit the ages at which dogs may be bred and would prohibit breeding a dog declared by a veterinarian to be "unfit for breeding." The term "unfit for breeding" is not defined, so it is not clear which conditions might render any animal unfit, or on what criteria a veterinarian would base their evaluations.
- SB2492 includes many of the same problematic provisions that were contained in last year's SB1522, of which the Hawaii Office of the Auditor concluded "proposed regulation of dog breeder business is problematic, better options are available." This report additionally indicated:

We found little more than anecdotal evidence for a need to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare from abusive activities of large-scale dog breeders.

and

Some requirements detailed in the bill can result in hardships to some breeders as they seek a one-size fitsall solution to the widely diverse needs and characteristics of over 150 dog breeds.

In conclusion, SB2492 is burdensome to responsible dog owners and breeders and several provisions of the bill are detrimental to animal welfare. It creates disincentives to dog ownership and lacks provisions for enforcement. SB2492 will negatively impact responsible owners and breeders in Hawaii and thereby limit the options for residents of Hawaii to own a dog from a local, responsible breeder in the future.

We respectfully urge that you do not move this or similar bills forward.

Sincerely,

Patty Van Sicklen

Legislative Analyst

The American Kennel Club is the world's largest and most respected not-for-profit dog registry. The AKC represents 46 kennel clubs in Hawaii, comprised of hundreds of Hawaiian constituents and taxpayers. In 2011 alone, the AKC licensed and sanctioned 128 events in the state of Hawaii, in which more than 8,130 dogs participated. These events generated significant revenue for Hawaiian communities.

# TERRIERS IN PARADISE-HAWAII, INC. AKC PERFORMANCE CLUB

Kapolei, HI 96707 808-542-9581

March 12, 2012

House Committee on Judiciary

Hawaii State Capitol

Attn:

Rep. Gilbert Keith-Agaran

Rep. Karl Rhoads

Rep. Tom Brower

Rep. Rida Cabanilla

Rep. Mele Carroll

Rep. Denny Coffman

Rep. Robert Herkes

Rep. Ken Ito

Rep. Sylvia Luke

Rep. Angus McKelvey

Rep. Joseph Souki

Rep. Clift Tsuji

Rep. George Fontaine

Rep. Barbara Marumoto

Rep. Cynthia Thielen

Re: Testimony in Strong Opposition to SB2494 & SB 2492

March 12, 2012 @ 2:00, March 13, 2012 @ 2:00.

# Dear Representatives:

I am the president of Terriers In Paradise-Hawaii, Inc., an American Kennel Club performance club. I represent 25 voting members from all across Hawaii. We were established in 1991.

I also represent ALL the individual dog fanciers across the State who are unable to attend these hearings due to distance or work obligations. The thousands of hobby breeders who WORK and do not rely on sales of puppies for a livelihood.

Our members come from all walks of life but the 1 thing we have in common is our love of dogs, ALL dogs. Pure breed and mixed breed dogs come together to have fun during the summer months. We also service community by providing breed education, puppy/breeder referral, and limited rescue services.

The dogs we help never make it to any animal shelter because we find them loving homes.

I spent the weekend of March 3 & 4 at the Hawaiian Kennel Club and spoke to almost every member of the AKC dog community present. This show is the largest all breed dog show in the State.

## What I learned this weekend is:

- The people who ran the much publicized Waimanalo commercial breeding facility are still in business with a new pet shop in Aiea.
- Despite the publicity on both the TV and in the newspaper, people continue to purchase purebred dogs from the owners behind the Waimanalo incident.
- Members of the AKC dog fancy have been trying to educate the general public regarding how to purchase dogs and warning them of conditions that these pups may have been raised under. People continue to buy these puppies.
- I have been told by dog fanciers on the big island that the Luke family has moved their commercial breeding operation to the big island. The pups are still being mass produced and offered for sale at their new pet shop and over the internet. I question how many of the 360 puppies the Hawaiian Humane Society found for sale over a 2 week period came from this new breeding operation.
- The Luke family imported their original breeding stock from the mainland and that the Hawaii State Quarantine facility was fully aware that large quantities of dogs were being brought in to the State to establish this breeding operation.
- I was also told by many AKC dog show breeders that if these bills become law, they are seriously considering getting out the sport. One less dog fancier, eliminates another reputable source of purebred dogs. This just adds more incentive for large scale commercial breeders to continue.

The Hawaiian Humane Society newsletter March-May 2012 states on page 4 that nearly 10,000 dogs were admitted to their shelters. Their statistic does not say how many were purebred dogs, how many dogs were originally acquired from pet shops, how many were the victims of owners being homeless or sudden military deployment or other psychosocial reason. Dogs that ARE loved and wanted but surrendered to shelters due to circumstance. HHS statistics do not reflect the number of dogs who are taken in by AKC purebred dog clubs and individual dog breeders. I like many of my fellow dog breeders, will take back any dog I have bred, no questions asked, if an owner is no longer able to care the dog. Their article doesn't recognize the work provided by AKC dog club members who helped to clean up the Waimanalo dogs, fostered them in their homes, and then assisted in finding them forever homes.

# I ask the members of this committee, given the above information, how will the passage of these bills prevent a repeat of the Waimanalo incident?

We are all on the same side in regards to animal WELFARE. Why are responsible hobby breeders being targeted in these bills when there is nothing in them to prevent another Waimanalo? These bills are intentionally meant to micromanage dog breeders out of existence. Think about it, if all the shelter dogs are sterilized and hobby breeders are unable to meet the public's demand for purebred dogs, where will your next dog come from?

Furthermore, we strongly oppose SB2494 & SB 2492 for the following reasons:

SB2494 SD1 Purpose Statement: Profit driven breeding is prevalent in Hawaii and during a two week period in November over three hundred sixty puppies were available for sale. When projected over one-year period, revenues from sales of dogs may be equal to or exceed \$9,400,000.

How was this data obtained and from what sources? Was this taken from online resources which probably were out of state and international (Australia & New Zealand) breeders? How is the \$9.4 million dollar figure arrived at? The State Auditor said that the HHS and HHUS were unable to document number of dogs being sold in Hawaii or the annual dollar volume. How many of those puppies come from large scale breeders? How many from Hobby Breeders? How many

from "Backyard Breeders"? Shouldn't measurable statistics be obtained for Hawaii rather basing legislation on national templates?

# SB2494 SD1 requires owners (or those in the possession) of ten or more dogs over the age of four months with intact sexual organs to meet minimum standards of care.

How will it be determined if female dogs are spayed or intact by those enforcing this law? If a veterinarian needs to be consulted and an ultra sound done to determine whether or not a female dog is intact, who will pay for this service? Record keeping, including vet records, would be required if you had over 10 intact animals. However, if your dogs were all spayed or neutered you legally would not be required to have these records on hand if an inspection is made. How are you going to prove your dogs are spayed? Additionally, wouldn't this apply to boarding kennels and doggie day care facilities?

SB2494 SD1 applies to any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, limited liability company, corporation, estate trust, receiver, or syndicate (exceptions include vet clinic; animal control or welfare agency tax exempt under 501(c3) person who provides care for dogs at the request of a government agency.

Corporation Officers and Directors would probably be shielded from criminal and civil convections. Although the courts convicted Bradley International (the Waimanalo Puppy Mill) of over 153 animal cruelty charges and hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines, the Corporation was dissolved and the officers were not held accountable or responsible. Additionally the Bradley International's General Manager was allowed to flee the state before charges were made and was able to circumvent punishment. Apparently the corporate structure is very difficult to overcome and even with these new laws, the outcome would have been the same in the Waimanalo Puppy Mill Case.

# SB2494 SD1 prohibits the ownership or custody of more than 30 dogs over the age of one year with intact sexual organs.

Honolulu City & County Zoning Laws already has established zoning restrictions on the number of dogs (10 is the maximum) in residential zoned areas. This bill would target agricultural and country zoned properties. Would boarding kennels be prevented from keeping more than 30 intact dogs? How would a boarding kennel be able to prove whether or not a dog was spayed or intact? Would there be a grandfather clause allowing those who have purchased agricultural or country land to keep the dogs currently residing on the premises? Would this additional restriction on zoning devalue the property's intended use and value?

## SB 2492 SD 1 Provides Numerous Standards of Care for Dogs:

"Regular exercise" means providing the dog with constant and unfettered access to an outdoor or indoor exercise area that provides at least four times the square footage of indoor floor space required for each dog pursuant to paragraph (3) of the definition of "sufficient housing or shelter".

This may mean that an outside door is always (constantly) left open which could possibly allow mice, rats, insects into the kennel areas, or is a security risk. Most dog owners with multiple dogs keep their dogs in inside kennels at night or in crates. For a larger dog that is required to have 20 sq. feet of indoor floor space, this means the dog would need to have 80 sq. feet of additional outside or inside space as an exercise area. That is 100 sq. feet of area per dog which is the size of a normal bedroom. The argument may be made that the dogs all could have access to an outdoor exercise area but many dog owners do not let their dogs indiscriminately run together without supervision.

"Sufficient food and clean water" means access to adequate amounts of appropriately nutritious food to maintain good health; and continuous access to potable water that is substantially free from debris, feces, algae, and other contaminants.

How is "appropriately nutritious food" defined? Is it organic grain free kibble? Is it grocery store brand dog food? Is it food that has been processed in China? Is food which is nutritious for one breed considered nutritious for another breed? Some dogs have allergies to certain foods...would those dogs be considered abused if they were fed foods which they were allergic too?

# Following are definitions for the housing area:

- ✓ "Sufficient space for movement" means the following:
- ✓ (1) Sufficient indoor space for each dog to lie down and fully extend limbs and stretch freely without touching the sides of the enclosure or another dog, and to turn in a complete circle without any impediments, including a tether;
- ✓ (2) At least twelve inches of headroom above the head of the tallest dog in the enclosure when it is in a normal standing position; and
- √ (3) A square footage that includes at least:
- √ (A) Twelve square feet of indoor floor space for each dog that is no more than twenty-five inches in length;

- ✓ (B) Twenty square feet of indoor floor space for each dog that is no less than twenty-five inches and no more than thirty-five inches in length; and
- ✓ (C) Thirty square feet of indoor floor space for each dog that is more than thirty-five inches in length; provided that the length of the dog shall be measured from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail.

The above requirements for choosing kennel space for each dog would take an engineer to decipher. In a single breed, dogs come in different shapes and sizes. Usually in a kennel facility, dogs are moved from kennel to kennel. A dog owner would have to measure the height and length of each dog to determine which kennel that dog could be housed in. This isn't just once, because dogs change as they grow older. The management of this type of requirement is not reasonable.

Standard of care; recordkeeping. (a) Any person who owns, possesses, controls, or otherwise has charge or custody of more than ten dogs over the age of four months with intact sexual organs shall provide the following for each dog:

- ✓ (1) Regular exercise;
- ✓ (2) Sufficient food and clean water;
- ✓ (3) Sufficient housing or shelter;
- ✓ (4) Sufficient space for movement;
- ✓ (5) Sufficient veterinary care; and
- ✓ (6) A microchip implanted under the skin;

It is not clear how this record keeping is to be done and the acceptable format for it. Is this done on a hourly, daily, or weekly basis (regarding food, water and exercise)? How detailed is the form? Is each dog listed on the form and each item checked off?

# Standards of Care for Breeding Dogs:

No dog shall be bred to produce more than two litters in any eighteen month period.

Does this include male stud dogs? If there is a "mistake" breeding the dog owner would still be breaking the animal abuse laws. Most canine reproduction specialists have found that back to back breedings (possibly every 6 months) is recommended for a healthy female dog rather than skipping heat cycles over a long period of time. Most breeders will breed their females no more than three times. The normal age for breeding is after two years old when health clearances can be

obtained. Most females are not bred after six years old. Every breed is different though and this decision should be made by the breeder and his/her vet.

No person who owns, possesses, controls, or otherwise has charge or custody of more than ten dogs over the age of four months with intact sexual organs shall breed any dog determined by a veterinarian to be unfit for breeding purposes.

What would be defined as "veterinarian's criteria"? Would it include clearances such as hip clearances, eye clearances, etc.? Would a dog which is on thyroid medication be considered "fit" for breeding? Would all veterinarians agree on what the "fitness" criteria is?

§ -4 Prohibitions on certain types of dogs in the same enclosure. No person who owns, possesses, controls, or otherwise has charge or custody of more than ten dogs over the age of four months with intact sexual organs shall place: A dog with a vicious or aggressive disposition in an enclosure with another dog, except for breeding purposes

Does this mean that a vicious dog can be put in an enclosure with another dog if the dogs are to be bred?

Puppies aged twelve weeks or younger in the same enclosure at the same time with other adult dogs, other than the dam or foster dam, unless under immediate and constant supervision.

Experts on dog behavior have repeatedly proven that proper puppy socialization includes contact and interaction with adult dogs. Many breeders allow their older puppies contact with gentle older dogs.

Those with a Breeding License would be allowing unannounced inspections of any area where dogs might be or perceived to be bred, have been bred, where puppies are raised or whelped. Those who do not have a license, but fall under the requirements for a license, would be fined \$1000 per day of violation.

State Auditor Marion Higa completed a report in October, 2011 which found that breeder licensing for Hawaii was problematic and ineffective as well as costly and difficult to enforce.

We ask you to please vote "NO" on these bills.

Lynn Muramaru President Terriers In Paradise-Hawaii, Inc.



Dear Chairman Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads and Committee Members,

My name is Theresa Donnelly, and I am the owner of Hawaii Military Pets, an online resource with 1,110 Facebook fans and numerous web hits to our blog. We educate on responsible pet ownership among Hawaii military pet owners.

I am writing in support of SB 2492 SD1, relating to dog breeding. In 2009, the responsible breeders in Maryland sat down at the bill drafting table and worked with the local humane society, The Humane Society of the United States and numerous other concerned parties and decided that something had to be done to protect dogs raised in substandard conditions. Instead of squabbling over terminology, they came up with a solution everyone could be happy with.

We need to do that in Hawaii. The Waimanalo puppy mill case (among reports of other puppy mills) and our staggering animal dog admission numbers (9,770 animals at The Hawaiian Humane Society alone from July 2010 to July 2011) tells us pet owners are not responsible and need regulation to protect animals living in substandard conditions.

I will tell you as an owner of purebred dogs with two of them showdogs, the responsible breeders I know already go above and beyond the minimum requirements stated in this bill. And, I have found that many breeders (even good ones) oppose all regulation with no suggested solutions.

Some of your biggest opposition to this bill may come from breeders receiving legislative alerts from The American Kennel Club (AKC). The American Kennel Club receives the majority of their income from puppy mills and "backyard breeders." I found this out by researching their delegate reports. The Waimanalo puppy mill was an AKC puppy farm for years, so I have a tough time seeing any of their opposition as credible. A decision, sadly, has been made that to keep the AKC in existence; they must serve the unregulated commercial breeder market and oppose any legislation to protect dogs in commercial breeding facilities. My position is the AKC could instead recommend shelter dogs as an alternative to an animal from a show home.

Protecting our animals means that we as a community come together and pass this bill to aid humane investigators so they have the tools they need, but will also protect the responsible breeders, who ensure a lifetime home, want the consumer to personally inspect their home and produce healthy animals. This bill does both.

Thank you so much for your time in reading my testimony.

Theresa Donnelly Owner, Hawaii Military Pets 3021 Anderson Ave Honolulu, HI 96818 (808)-388-3423

# GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB OF HAWAII Rescue & Referral

Date: March 12, 2012

TO: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Committee Members of the

House Committee on Judiciary

RE: SB2492 SD1: Relating to Animal Cruelty

In Strong Opposition

The Golden Retriever Club of Hawaii, Rescue and Referral program requests that SB2492 SD1 be deferred. Not only is this legislation faulty but those who are expert dog raisers and caretakers were not involved in determining the standards of care. If Animal Cruelty Laws need to be strengthened or amended then we would ask that breed clubs and organizations are allowed to give input. Thank you for your time and consideration.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent:

Monday, March 12, 2012 7:40 PM

To:

JUDtestimony

Cc:

Carol.Agard@gmail.com

Attachments: DACHSHUND CLUB OF HAWAII ~1.docx (13 KB)

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: Yes

Submitted by: Carol Agard

Organization: Dachshund Club of Hawaii

E-mail: Carol.Agard@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:

# **DACHSHUND CLUB OF HAWAII**

Senator Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Judiciary Senator Clayton Hee Chairman, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor State Capitol 415 South Beretania St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Testimony in Opposition to Senate Bill 2492

On behalf of the members of the Dachshund Club of Hawaii and the many other responsible dog owners and breeders in Hawaii, we are testifying in opposition to this bill. The bill would negatively impact responsible dog owners and breeders in Hawaii and limit the options for the people of Hawaii to own a local, responsibly bred dog in the future.

We also believe that placing limits on the number of animals does not address the underlying issues of responsible ownership and proper dog care. We support reasonable and enforceable laws that protect the welfare and health of dogs without restricting the rights of responsible owners or breeders.

We urge you not to move this bill forward, as it will negatively impact responsible owners and breeders in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Carol Agard President Dachshund Club of Hawaii 2157 Awikiwiki Pl. Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

### SB 2492SD1 Opposed

I am opposed to SB2482 SD1 because it is not a well thought out bill and targets hobby breeders who, at great personal expense, try to preserve the breeds they love. These are not puppy mill people; these are people that research blood lines and genetics to better their breeds. If the sentiment of this bill is to stop the puppy mill people the effect is much further reaching. Is it is strictly to add income for the state I believe enforcement will probably exceed any gains. When I visit the shelters I do not see row after row of purebred dogs I see mostly mixed breeds from irresponsible owners.

I think the kennel size and run stipulations shows a lack of knowledge in understanding how gentle older dogs help socialize younger dogs, also the way it is written would take a math major to understand. This bill is not targeting the problem. Why not put an advisory panel together of pure bred dog fanciers, HHS and veterinarians to draft proper legislation. Obviously current legislation failed because of the reopening of the Waimanalo puppy mill on the Big Island.

I would rather see good legislation put forward that is carefully thought-out then a bill pushed through that could have dire effects on breeders of pure bred dogs in general. These are the same breed clubs that take calls and place dogs constantly. These dogs never go to shelters! The pure bred dog community in Hawaii is not the problem, puppy mills are. Take the time to put together well thought out legislation, look at what has failed in the previous bill. A bill that targets the real problem.

Most breeders in Hawaii sell pets with mandatory spay-neuter in their contracts. If this community is targeted the end effect may actually worsen the problem. You would only have back yard breeders breeding purebred dogs with no thought to health clearances.

Your bill actually states that a vicious dog could be put in an enclosure to be bred. You should not breed a vicious dog at all, you would be furthering that temperament and you would be risking the health of the other dog??? Does this not tell you there are problems with this bill?

What exactly is unfit for breeding purposes, you may ask 5 vets and get 5 different opinions. You are implementing legislation that is to open to interpretation. Please consider working with a panel of experts, rather than imposing faulty and opened ended legislation and instead look at what has failed in the past. Look specifically at your puppy mill case and see why they were able to circumvent the law.

Pamela Higgins
68-1748 Akaula St
Waikoloa, Hi 96738
Member, Kona Coast Kennel Club, Big Island Agility, Orchid Island Dog Fancier's Club

# Michiro Twanaga

March 11, 2012

House Committees on the Judiciary and Consumer Affairs & Commerce Rooms 325

Re: Testimony in opposition to SB2492 and SB2494:

Dog Breeder Legislation

Dear Messrs. Chairmen & Members of the Committees:

I speak as Vice-President of the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Hawaii ("SSCH"), as a member and director of the Obedience Training Club of Hawaii ("OTCH"), as a member and director of the West Oahu Kennel Club, and as a private citizen. Let me note that the SSCH has the largest number of entries at each all-breed show on Oahu. The OTCH is the oldest dog club in Hawaii, has sponsored more obedience events, known as "trials," than any other AKC-recognized obedience club in America, and currently has over 425 members and associates. The WOKC represents dog show exhibitors responsible for over 1300 show and match entries a year.

By now, each of you has received a letter setting forth details of my opposition to the bills before you today. Let me now place that opposition on the record.

SB2494 and its abbreviated cousin, SB2492,¹ capitalize upon the public disgust that has arisen from public media coverage of a handful of isolated incidents involving despicable, substandard breeders and mentally disturbed or emotionally impaired animal hoarders. While reciting legislative interest in large scale breeding operations,² SB2492 and SB2494 target owners of ten or more "intact" dogs, regardless of whether or not the owners have actual possession of the dogs and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The primary difference between the two bills is that SB2492 does not contain certain objectionable enforcement provisions, including unlawful searches and seizures. Nevertheless, SB2492 still contains facility and care requirements that are not based on sound and well-accepted dog care practices.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Our Legislative Auditor has expressed serious doubt that abusive, large-scaled operations constitute a significant problem in Hawaii and has likewise questioned the feasibility or cost effectiveness of state-wide regulation.

# Michiro Twanaga

House Committees on the Judiciary and Consumer Protection and Commerce March 11, 2012 Page 2

regardless of whether or not the dogs are being used for breeding purposes.<sup>3</sup> In short, SB2492 and SB2494 seek to regulate indiscriminately, without taking good aim at the intended objects of the legislation, namely substandard breeders who operate in volume and without regard for the health, care, and safety of the dogs within their control.

Under the rubric of "unannounced inspections," SB2494 would permit the search of an individual's property without a warrant, let alone probable cause. Moreover, the bill would permit the seizure of an individual's dogs simply on the bases that the breeder has no "breeder's" license or that his or her dogs do not have county dog licenses for his or her animals. In other words, the seizure provisions do not limit their target to inhumane care facilities for the animals but instead use in terrorum tactics to ensure collection of biennial licensing fees. To make things worse, SB2494 contains provisions that allow the separate counties to delegate their inspection and enforcement responsibilities, including the warrantless searches and seizures, to private contractors, without imposing any limitations or qualification requirements.

In sum, as the result of SB2494, a responsible dog breeder would receive worse treatment than a drug dealer. Drug dealers are at least protected from civil seizures by statutorily-mandated probable cause requirements.

SB2492 and SB2494 have been drafted with the unbridled fear that animals will be neglected and left alone and locked away—uncared for, and unfed. As a result, the bills actually exacerbate the perceived problem. Responsible breeders and care givers provide proactive and attentive care and exercise for the dogs in their charge. The Legislature should applaud and encourage such care. Instead, SB2492 and SB2494 do quite the opposite.

SB2492 and SB2494 impose inflexible facility requirements that actually reduce the level of attention that dogs will receive. These

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Dogs entered in AKC-sanctioned dog shows must not be spayed or neutered. It is common for dog show participants/breeders to retain co-ownership rights in the offspring of their breedings simply for show purposes and not for purposes of breeding. The offspring are generally not in the breeder's possession and not on his or her premises.

# Michiro Swanaga

House Committees on the Judiciary and Consumer Protection and Commerce March 11, 2012 Page 3

facility requirements institutionalize a passive attitude towards dog care. For example, following a well-recognized and humane practice, dog fanciers use dog crates to house their animals during sleeping hours, meal and quiet times, toilet training, and during other periods when the animals should be kept separated or under careful control, e.g., during periods of illness or transport. (Also the use of kennel structures or runs have long been recognized as humane.) Dog fanciers pay attention to their dogs and move dogs between crates and day time/exercise areas and also go from crate to crate to attend to each dog's separate needs. Simply out of fear and a lack of understanding, SB2492 and SB2494 prohibit the responsible and humane use of crates and kennel runs. They do this by imposing, among other things, a requirement of "sufficient housing or shelter"—a laudable concept. Unfortunately, the term "sufficient housing or shelter" is defined inartfully. It is defined to include "constant and unfettered access" to exercise areas. In other words, dog owners would not be permitted to close the door to any crate or kennel run. In short, SB2492 and SB2494 promote chaos over orderly and attended care and housing during hours set aside for sleeping, meals, quiet time, and the like. In the name of "constant and unfettered access," SB2492 and SB2494 throw dogs together at all times.

Purely out of fear, SB2492 and SB2494 also prohibit the stacking or elevation of crates above floor level. I know of one elderly widow—a dog fancier and dog show exhibitor whose dogs have the run of three very large, grassy, landscaped yards all day long and most of the early evening hours. (These dogs are bathed and groomed regularly, fed like clockwork, and treated like the woman's children.) For bedtime or during inclement weather, her dogs are brought indoors into her home. So she will not have to bend down when attending to those dogs at night, this dog fancier has a part-time employee, who in the evening places them into immaculately cleaned crates, some of which are arranged on a shelf off the ground in an air-conditioned room. SB2492 and SB2494 declare this practice inhumane, and SB2494 would subject these pampered and happy dogs and this doting grandmother to the horrors of warrantless searches and seizures by untrained private contractors. This caring woman would be subject to criminal prosecution and to

# Michiro Swanaga

House Committees on the Judiciary and Consumer Protection and Commerce March 11, 2012
Page 4

absurd and insulting fines. What is more, SB2494 would impose a biennial \$500 licensing fee on this widow, merely for the benefit of the City and County's general fund.

If the facility and care requirements of SB2492 and SB2494 were so sensible and so humane, why are animal welfare organizations exempt from their application? Surely, the many hundreds of animals that come into the Hawaiian Humane Society would benefit from these measures. Surely, forcing the Humane Society to place such legislatively mandated facilities out in public view would help educate the public. The truth of the matter is that the exemption has been provided because the requirements of SB2492 and SB2494 do not in fact reflect reasonable facility requirements for responsible care givers.

In short, the solution to the perceived problem of abusive, substandard dog breeding operations is not to impose unrealistic facility and care requirements on responsible owners and breeders. The solution is better drafted criminal laws, more severe criminal penalties, and efficient law enforcement. Furthermore, the increased cost of law enforcement should be borne by all dog owners, not just an elderly widow. Ultimately, the dog owning public is the direct beneficiary of these legal measures.

SB2492 and SB2494 are simply examples of an overzealous "animal rights" approach to legislation. Take for example the requirement that "a means of fire suppression, such as functioning fire extinguishers, [be] located within forty feet of the cage or enclosure." We do not even impose fire suppression requirements upon individual households with children.

In summary, the facility and care requirements of SB2492 and SB2494 are not rationally related to their own expressed goals. Instead, SB2492 and SB2494 reflect: (1) a calculated appeal to raw public emotion and (2) an inflexible, preconceived, and uninformed notion of what constitutes humane and responsible dog care. Let's not throw out sound dog care practices and facilities, simply to vent indignation and disgust at a few instances of horrible, large scale

# Michiro Swanaga

House Committees on the Judiciary and Consumer Protection and Commerce March 11, 2012 Page 5

substandard breeding operations and animal hoarding. Let's put those despicable operators and hoarders where they belong: In jail!

I urge you to vote "NO" on SB2492 and SB2494.

Very truly yours,

MICHIRO IWANAGA

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 5:35 PM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: aus008@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Shari Au, Ph.d.

Organization: Individual E-mail: aus008@yahoo.com Submitted on: 3/9/2012

### Comments:

With human and animal overpopulation there is no room for unqualified breeding of animals.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 5:41 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: bdwalsh@computer.org

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Brian Walsh Organization: Individual E-mail: bdwalsh@computer.org

Submitted on: 3/9/2012

#### Comments:

cruelty.

Dog breed enthusiasts and hobbyists have not been consulted on this legislation which could easily affect them in ways that are not in the best interests of the animals. It will place a burden on those who are least likely to be cruel to their animals while simultaneously driving those who are the worst offenders underground - resulting in increased

Worst, had this legislation been in place, it would not have altered the outcome of the notorious Waimanalo puppy-mill case.

This is BAD legislation.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 6:20 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: lisaparker808@aol.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Lisa M. Parker Organization: Individual E-mail: lisaparker808@aol.com

Submitted on: 3/9/2012

#### Comments:

Please vote against this Bill. Send all FOUR Bills to a committee so ONE GOOD BILL can be written that Hawaii can be proud of. No one wants to see or hear about abused "puppy mill" dogs or sick "pet store" pets, but I feel there is more going on in our legislator that is not doing a good job representing the people of Hawaii. Some of our basic rights are being abused in these Bills along with issues like: Who is going to enforce these and at what cost to the public? What sort of litigation with "expert witnesses" will bog down our courts?

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please think about all the repercussions when you vote.

Aloha, Lisa Parker

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 6:33 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: seiriosshelties@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Blanche Sawamura

Organization: Individual

E-mail: seiriosshelties@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/9/2012

#### Comments:

I oppose SB2492; please vote " NAY" on SB2492. Neither breeders nor dog hobbyists were consulted with the drafting of the bill which mandates standards of care.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 6:33 PM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: sns808@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Sherrie Sawamura

Organization: Individual E-mail: sns808@gmail.com Submitted on: 3/9/2012

#### . Comments:

I oppose SB2492; please vote " NAY" on SB2492. Neither breeders nor dog hobbyists were consulted with the drafting of the bill which mandates standards of care.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 6:34 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: Imsawa808@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Laura Sawamura Organization: Individual E-mail: lmsawa808@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/9/2012

#### Comments:

I oppose SB2492; please vote " NAY" on SB2492. Neither breeders nor dog hobbyists were consulted with the drafting of the bill which mandates standards of care.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 6:34 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: darsaw9@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Darlene Sawamura

Organization: Individual E-mail: darsaw9@gmail.com Submitted on: 3/9/2012

#### Comments:

I oppose SB2492; please vote " NAY" on SB2492. Neither breeders nor dog hobbyists were consulted with the drafting of the bill which mandates standards of care.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 6:50 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: starfire-retreat@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Torun and David Almer Organization: Individual

E-mail: starfire-retreat@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 3/9/2012

Comments:

## TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY IN OPPOSITION OF SB2492, SD1 (SSCR2452)

DATE OF HEARING:

TUE., MARCH 13, 2012

TIME:

2:00 P.M.

PLACE:

STATE CAPITOL, CONFERENCE ROOM 325

Dear Representatives Keith-Agaran & Rhoads:

I strongly oppose this legislation. I don't believe that tacking on fines will rid the state of puppy mills. Instead, this will deter responsible breeders and hobbyists from breeding excellent stock. Responsible breeders and hobbyists, the ones who should have been consulted, were never consulted in the drafting of this legislation which mandates standards of care. Some of the standards of care could be dangerous or unhealthy for some breeds of dogs.

SB2492, SD1 does not represent the best interests of the people of Hawaii or their canine companions. Please do not allow this type of legislation to be passed.

Charlotte Y. Hee

### **TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB2492**

SUBMITTED BY: JANICE IBARAKI

March 9, 2012

I strongly oppose SB2492 and any modification of it; please vote "NAY" on SB2492. I have been involved in showing and occasionally have had litters of Shetland Sheepdogs over the past 37 years. I currently do not breed or show my dogs; however I have concerns about bills that will severely impair the ability of reputable breeders to produce quality dogs that uphold the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club. In the past, I have imported dogs from the mainland and only bred to produce quality dogs with the aim to show them at AKC sanctioned shows. I can say that in the years I have been in dogs that I have spent considerable amounts of time and money caring for my dogs and puppies and have definitely not made a profit.

I question why this legislation is necessary since the Legislative Auditor clearly questioned whether "puppy mills" constitute a significant problem in Hawaii that would justify state-wide regulation.

I also question why dog hobbyists and fanciers who live with their dogs were not consulted during the drafting of this bill that mandates standards of care. We who live with our dogs know best how to take care of the health and well-being of our dogs. Please take the time to confer with dog hobbyists and fanciers before rushing to pass bad legislation.

I understand the initiative to this bill is the atrocious treatment of dogs found in Waimanalo but this bill could harm a greater majority of people who love their animals and go to their utmost to care for them. Please kill SB2492 and any modification of this bill as there should instead be legislation to increase the criminal penalties of existing animal cruelty laws and effective enforcement of these laws.

Thank you for your consideration, Janice Ibaraki

I am a dog fancier and I vote.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 7:19 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: oahuliz@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Elizabeth Fraize

Organization: Individual E-mail: oahuliz@yahoo.com Submitted on: 3/10/2012

Comments:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 7:32 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: Regalchihuahuas@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Terry Nii

Submitted by: Terry Nii Organization: Individual

E-mail: Regalchihuahuas@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/10/2012

#### Comments:

I oppose SB2492 for the following reasons:

This bill was crafted with NO input from actual responsible breeders/dog or cat fanciers. According to this bill I would be a criminal if I continue to breed a perfectly healthy 9 year old Champion male dog that is still producing show puppies. I feel that a breeder regulation bill needs input from actual breeders/hobbyists and not just a mainland template from the HSUS.

Also, how will this bill be enforced and paid for? Last year (2011), Marion Higa the Legislative Auditor concluded that breeder legislation was not necessary, and not practical to enforce.

I urge you to vote "NO" on SB2492 or to defer the bill and ask for some input from actual responsible hobby and show breeders.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 9:32 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: ALOHARUNNER@HOTMAIL.COM

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: STEPHANIE MCLAUGHLIN

Organization: Individual

E-mail: ALOHARUNNER@HOTMAIL.COM

Submitted on: 3/10/2012

#### Stacia Ohira

#### 87-1495 Akowai Road

Waianae, Hawaii 96792

808-778-0220

In OPPOSITION To SB2492 SD1

Dear Chair and committee members-

My name is Stacia Ohira and I am a member of the American Kennel Club and have been a member of this club for over 30 years. Membership into this club as a young child growing up in Hawaii has been a most rewarding and instrumental experience for my life as I am a professional dog handler and represent Hawaii quite well on the continent and abroad.

I am in opposition of this bill SB2492 SD1 for many reasons. I find it rather disrespectful that there was no one who contacted the "dog community" who breed, raise and exhibit healthy well socialized pure bred dogs for their input and knowledge and instead listened to only one side of information giving. It is these responsible breeders who belong to their respective breed clubs who in turn have breed rescue in almost every single state who will assist in the care, attention and placement of a pure bred dog of their respective breeds. Therefore minimizing having a pure bred dog in the care of the humane society or shelters of that sort. I am sure that if you tour the shelters the amount of pure bred dogs versus the other mixed breed dogs will surely come to show that pure bred dogs are not the dogs that overcrowding the shelter systems because there have been measures already put in place to help avoid the situation. Thus the meaning of a responsible breeder. The situation with the "puppy mill" breeder here in Hawaii is ridiculous and people who breed dogs like that should be punished but, not everyone who breed pure bred dogs treat their animals as the "puppy mill" situation so why is everyone going to be punished for the act. Furthermore the American Kennel Club requires you as a responsible breeder to already keep records of who you sold your dogs too and what happens to them as they grow up to be someone else's loving pet. The AKC also requires you to sell the pets as pets and they should not be bred. Most responsible breeders do this and a lot more to insure the proper care of their dog and after veterinary care and proper healthy dog food costs do not profit from the sales of healthy puppies.

To punish an entire community for someone else's wrong doing is insane and almost like we live in a communist world and not in a world full of ALOHA. Controlling an entire community is something that I thought I would never have to live through. It is sad, it is not right, and makes me sad to think this is happening in a world where I was born and raised.

Mahalo for your time please feel free to contact me should you require more input.

Sincerely-

Stacia Ohira

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 10:47 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: feathers03@me.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Margaret Sueoka Organization: Individual E-mail: feathers03@me.com Submitted on: 3/10/2012

Comments:

This bill is long overdue. Please support it.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 12:58 PM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: kfairies@aol.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Kandice Crusat Organization: Individual E-mail: kfairies@aol.com Submitted on: 3/10/2012

#### Comments:

Please pass this bill. If we don't help them now, needless suffering will continue for another generation or longer. They are innocent bystanders and need our help. I support any form of spay/neuter and work here with advoCATS.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 2:25 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Rosemary Karlsson

Organization: Individual

E-mail: rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/10/2012

#### Comments:

This is urgently needed! Hawaii has abusive puppy mills! I've done dog rescue for 10 years and have seen the 'fallout' from the puppy mills. Legitimate breeders don't have a problem with regulation.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 4:16 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: nomie\_34@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Naomi Egami Organization: Individual E-mail: nomie\_34@yahoo.com Submitted on: 3/10/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent:

Saturday, March 10, 2012 4:20 PM

To:

JUDtestimony

Cc:

mtomasu@hawaii.rr.com

Attachments: I oppose SB2492.docx (10 KB)

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Mona Tomasu Organization: Individual E-mail: mtomasu@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 3/10/2012

I oppose SB2492; please vote "NAY" on SB2492. Neither breeders nor dog hobbyists were consulted with the drafting of the bill which mandates standards of care.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 4:26 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: beckyrl2p@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Becky Robison Organization: Individual E-mail: beckyrl2p@gmail.com Submitted on: 3/10/2012

#### Comments:

The dog and cat overpopulation problem is so enormous, we need to start taking action! Thank you so much for passing this measure.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 8:44 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: tdoi07@punahou.edu

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Travis Doi Organization: Individual E-mail: tdoi07@punahou.edu Submitted on: 3/10/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Saturday, March 10, 2012 10:48 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: hawaiidach@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Kathleen Doi Organization: Individual E-mail: hawaiidach@yahoo.com Submitted on: 3/10/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 8:43 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: pintonian@hotmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Patti A Pinto Organization: Individual E-mail: pintonian@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

#### Comments:

These people's disregard for the well being of the animals in their care because of their over riding desire to profit at the expense of their animals. Animals are not toasters that can be boxed and stacked and stored, animals thrive when each is nourished, cared for and allowed to grow and develop individually.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 10:51 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: Jeskennels@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: Yes

Submitted by: Nikki char

Organization: Siberian husky club of hawaii

E-mail: Jeskennels@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 4:04 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: dobemom@clearwire.net

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Amy Fujinaka Organization: Individual E-mail: dobemom@clearwire.net

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

#### Comments:

There is a disturbing section that appears to advocate for breeding of dogs with " viscious or aggressive" temperaments by specifically limiting their housing with other dogs to just for " breeding purposes".

Also as an obedience trainer and handler, it is important to begin socialization of puppies with other dogs as soon as possible. Most reputable breeders will release puppies at 8 wks of age and it is important to expose those puppies to other members of the family "pack" as well as to other dogs as much as possible. Most of them time this is during "direct" supervision, however what if you to another room to fill a water dish or answer a phone? What about when everybody(dogs included) is sleeping? The space requirements are also quite laughable. What about people who live in apartments with their dogs or are traveling to show their dogs in various events? (If they are all housed in the same hotel and there happens to be 10 or more of them at the time, will the hotel be held liable?) Again, like 2494, this is a poorly worded and poorly thought out bill, that will be impossible to enforce due to the vague language of the bill.

## LYNN Y. MURAMARU

# Kapolei, HI 96707 808-542-9581

March 4, 2012

House Committee on Judiciary

Hawaii State Capitol

Attn:

Rep. Gilbert Keith-Agaran

Rep. Karl Rhoads

Rep. Tom Brower

Rep. Rida Cabanilla

Rep. Mele Carroll

Rep. Denny Coffman

Rep. Robert Herkes

Rep. Ken Ito

Rep. Sylvia Luke

Rep. Angus McKelvey

Rep. Joseph Souki

Rep. Clift Tsuji

Rep. George Fontaine

Rep. Barbara Marumoto

Rep. Cynthia Thielen

Re: Testimony in Opposition to SB2494 & SB 2492

March 6, 2012 @ 9:00 a.m.

# Dear Representatives:

I have owned and bred AKC champion Miniature Schnauzers and Border Terriers for over 30 years. I am a member in good standing of the American Miniature Schnauzer Club, Border Terrier Club of America, Miniature Schnauzer Club of So. California, Border Terrier Club of So. California, and American Working Terrier Association. I am licensed by the American Kennel Club to judge earthdog tests. I am also the current president of Terriers In Paradise-Hawaii, Inc., an AKC performance club. I am a health care social worker in this community.

Over the last 30 years I have produced 7 litters of puppies. I have been the victim of a barking dog complaint by a disgruntled neighbor to the Hawaiian Humane Society and subjected to an announced inspection of my home and kennel area. I took unpaid time off from work to be at this inspection and the

HHS officer did not show up and did not have the courtesy to call to reschedule the appointment. "He said he had other business to do" when he returned my call 2 days later to reschedule. Again I had to take another day off from work and wait for his inspection. He could find anything wrong with the care my dogs received and could not find any reason for the anonymous complaint. I shudder to think how the passage of these bills will impact me as a dog breeder in the future. As a social worker and responsible dog owner, I am all for animal welfare and decent care for all animals as well as people. I fail to see how these bills will accomplish this. Even with the small number of litters my dogs have produced, there are times when I fit the criteria set forth in these bills for a "large scale dog breeder".

I would also like the legislature to know that it is not uncommon for many dog breeders who show dogs to co-own dogs. In our attempt to regulate breeding of dogs we produce, we will often co-own dogs that are sold. Co-ownerships and AKC limited registrations are just 2 of the ways we control breeding of dogs we produce. Dogs co-owned with responsible breeders cannot be bred without the breeder's consent. Dogs sold with limited AKC registrations cannot be bred. Responsible dog breeders will sell intact puppies with limited AKC registrations. This practice allows the puppy to physically mature before being spayed/neutered thereby avoiding pediatric spay/neuter that many of us oppose. These proposed laws do not account for this common practice. It is possible for dog breeders to co-own more than 30 dogs and yet house just a couple in our own homes. There are major flaws in the proposed laws regarding ownership of dogs.

I spent the weekend of March 3 & 4 at the Hawaiian Kennel Club and spoke almost every member of the AKC dog community present. This show is the largest all breed dog show in the State.

#### What I learned this weekend is:

- The people who ran the much publicized Waimanalo commercial breeding facility are still in business with a new pet shop in Aiea.
- Despite the publicity on both the TV and in the newspaper, people continue to purchase purebred dogs from the owners behind the Waimanalo incident.
- Members of the AKC dog fancy have been trying to educate the general public regarding how to purchase dogs and warning them of conditions that these pups may

- have been raised under. People continue to buy these puppies.
- I have been told by dog fanciers on the big island that the Luke family has moved their commercial breeding operation to the big island. The pups are still being mass produced and offered for sale at their new pet shop and over the internet. I question how many of the 360 puppies the Hawaiian Humane Society found for sale over a 2 week period came from this new breeding operation.
- The Luke family imported their original breeding stock from the mainland and that the Hawaii State Quarantine facility was fully aware that large quantities of dogs were being brought in to the State to establish this breeding operation.
- I was also told by many AKC dog show breeders that if these bills become law, they are seriously considering getting out the sport. One less dog fancier, eliminates another reputable source of purebred dogs. This just adds more incentive for large scale commercial breeders to continue.
- The Hawaiian Humane Society newsletter March-May 2012 states on page 4 that nearly 10,000 dogs were admitted to their shelters. Their statistic does not say how many were purebred dogs, how many dogs were originally acquired from pet shops, how many were the victims of owners being homeless or sudden military deployment or other psychosocial reason. Their statistics do not reflect the number of dogs who are taken in by AKC purebred dog clubs and individual dog breeders. I like many of my fellow dog breeders, will take back any dog I have bred, no questions asked, if an owner is no longer able to care the dog. Their article does not also recognize the work provided by AKC dog club members who helped to foster dogs from the Waimanalo incident.

I ask the members of this committee, given the above information, how will the passage of these bills prevent a repeat of the Waimanalo incident?

Furthermore, I oppose SB2494 & SB 2492 for the following reasons:

- Irresponsible and inhumane dog breeders, such as "puppy mills," can be controlled by increasing the criminal penalties under existing animal cruelty and related laws and by more effective enforcement of those laws. I see no reason to subject dog breeder to more regulations when current laws are not enforced.
- Applicable zoning laws already impose limits on the number of dogs permitted in on a person's premises;
- The Legislative Auditor's Report 11-02 dated October 2011 clearly questions whether "puppy mills" constitute a significant problem in Hawaii and doubts that state wide regulation would be justifiable.
- SB2494 violates personal freedoms of licensees by allowing unannounced searches and seizures without probable cause or search warrants. Most members of the local AKC dog fancy work for a living. Our "kennels" are areas in our homes. It would be a clear violation of our personal rights and freedoms to have unannounced inspections at times we may be working. Sen. Clayton Hee told me that this provision is needed because a substandard breeder could correct their situation in the time it took to obtain a search warrant. I fail to see how the smell & appearance of animals could be eliminated, how new structures be built, and new equipment purchase to bring conditions up to standard in such a short time.
- It permits seizure of dogs simply on the basis of the unlicensed status of the breeder and regardless of whether those dogs are being maintained under humane conditions.
- Even though humane care and housing of dogs can take many forms, SB2494 imposes a single, rigid, and inflexible view of what constitutes appropriate care and housing.
- The proposed bill hopes to curtail the activities and misdeeds of irresponsible breeders and "puppy mills" but imposes record keeping requirements for breeding and other health information that will only be observed by responsible breeders.

• SB2494 identifies in a study of current situation that there are about 30 "large scale dog breeders" in the State. The proposed breeder license fee is a \$500 biennial fee. That would mean a mere \$7,500 per year for enforcement. I am inclined to believe that the definition of dog breeder in the proposed legislation is so broad that the responsible dog fancy is being unfairly targeted to subsidize the regulation of ourselves.

I urge you to vote "NO" on both SB 2494 & SB 2492.

Yours truly,

Lynn Y. Muramaru

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 8:41 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: catherine.m.staege@us.army.mil

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Catherine Staege

Organization: Labrador Retriever Club of Hawaii

E-mail: catherine.m.staege@us.army.mil

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### Comments:

This bill was not well thought out and is a waste of time. It makes one wonder just who is actually behind this bill.

#### TESTIMONY IN STRONG OPPOSITION TO SB2492 SD1

Testimony of: Edward J. Robello

As a longtime funcier of purebred dogs I oppose SB2492 SD1 for the following reasons and ask that the committee vote "NO" on this bill:

It is clear that this bill was assembled without the input of responsible breeders and fanciers in Hawaii. The Hawaii Humane Society and the HSUS should be acknowledged on their fine work on behalf on all animals in the State of Hawaii. However other "voices" in the community should and must be taken seriously. This bill as written will be a tremendous burden on all sectors of the community and will be a nightmare to enforce.

State Auditor Marion Higa completed a report in October, 2011 which found that breeder licensing for Hawaii was problematic and ineffective as well as costly and difficult to enforce. This is your own State Auditor saying this type of licensing will create a problem.

The American Kennel Club has expressed its concerns regarding this bill, as well as many Hawaii Fancier Clubs, Veterinarians and private individuals.

Let us all take a long breath and pause. Let the PASSION subside and let common sense emerge. I suggest we bring all the stakeholder parties together for an open and honest discussion of this issue. Let us not take a "knee jerk" reaction to what has happened recently. This bill as written is flawed and will not work.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Aloha.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent:

Sunday, March 11, 2012 7:42 PM

To:

JUDtestimony

Cc:

thomaskano@hotmail.com

Attachments: testimony - dog.docx (14 KB)

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Gail Kano

Organization: Hawaiian Hound Association

E-mail: thomaskano@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

I oppose SB 2492 as it is now written. There should be further discussion from members of the dog clubs, dog fanciers and dog community who will be directly impacted by these bills. These people know more about breeding and caring for dogs than our legislators and can provide valuable information needed to write a fair and equitable bill to protect the welfare of dogs. While I agree to the prevention of cruelty to animals, I oppose the regulations included in these bills that attempt to control dog breeding. The two issues should be addressed separately, in separate bills.

Dog fanciers will occasionally have a litter to perpetuate the standards of their breed for the show ring and to pick the best for showing. There is no profit to be made compared to the expenses of breeding and caring for puppies. Our dogs are PETS AND FAMILY MEMBERS FIRST then show dogs. Although we would not be directly affected by these bills now, maybe one day we would if the Humane Societies get their way.

The Humane Societies of the United States and Hawaii that are lobbying for these bills only care about limiting the breeding of animals and eventually abolish all pet ownership. They should be spending their money on caring for animals, finding homes for abandoned and abused animals, and educating the public instead of lobbying across the country for anti-pet ownership and breeding bills.

My husband and I are members of the Hawaiian Hound Association and we vote.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 6:42 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: brianandkaye@walsh.net

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Kaye Walsh

Organization: Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of Hawaii

E-mail: brianandkaye@walsh.net

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

#### Comments:

My name is Kaye Walsh, we live in Kaaawa, and I am the President of the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Club of Hawaii with over 100 members, all residents and voters in Hawaii.

We oppose the passage of SB2492. This bill does not and will not stop unscrupulous large scale breeders who are expert at avoiding successful prosecution (witness the reopening of a pet shop run by

the same family as the Waimanalo puppy mill - only a dissolved corporation was found & amp; quot; guilty & amp; quot;).

This bill, most likely with language supplied by the mainland lobbying group, HSUS, will infringe only on

the rights of law abiding, conscientious breeders of AKC registered dogs. These breeders carefully

choose the homes for their puppies and provide advice and assistance to the owners, most for the lifetime of the dog. The bill provides for the warrantless searches of private property and seizures,

disposition and or destruction of dogs by an organization contracting with a county of this state (in the

case of Oahu, the local Hawaiian Humane Society which will benefit monetarily from the passage of this

bill).

The bill currently defines a "dog breeder" as anyone with more than 10 intact dogs over the

age of four months. It is not unusual for a breeder of purebred dogs to "run on" for

additional months puppies from a litter in order to determine which should be sold as pets (99% of the

time with limited registration and neuter contracts) and which to keep as their next generation, improving their breed. That could mean there would be more than ten intact dogs in the home over four months of age. This bill would allow the "contracted organization" to seize the dogs,

charge this type of owner with a misdemeanor or a charge of cruelty to animals for each violation and a

fine of \$1,000 per day for each perceived violation.

There are many potential unintended consequences of this bill and the above is only one example. The

bill has been written with such specificity of minor matters that a dog's crate could not be placed more

than 42 inches above the floor. That is just about waist level for the average woman who might choose

to have her dog's overnight crate on a shelf so that it is easier to clean and replace food and water.

Another paragraph is that each enclosure be cleaned once a day, surely good care would require this,

but be practical, how would that be enforced? Look at the potential consequences.

The number of dogs in the current definition of dog breeder is "ten". It would only take a

one word amendment to change the number of intact dogs in this definition to  $\alpha$  amp; quot; one  $\alpha$  amp; quot; and

then every owner of an intact dog would be subject to this law and unannounced inspection at any time of their home, seizures of their dogs and fines. We believe this amendment would be submitted in

the future, sponsored by the same mainland organizations that support this bill.

## **TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB2492 SD 1/SSCR2452**

Testimony from:

Twylla-Dawn Steer,

Voting resident of Kailua, 40+ years

Hearing:

House Committee on Judiciary

Date & Time:

13 March, 2012 @ 2:00 pm, Conf Rm 325

# Chairman Gilbert Keith-Agaran and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

I oppose this legislation on two issues, here's why:

First, the proposed bill is still about controlling large-scale breeding operations (a business activity alleged to generate  $$9.4 \times 10^6$  in one year and not considered animal cruelty in the first or second degree) as defined by Hawaii statute HRS 711-1100-1110.5

- (1) A person commits the offense of cruelty to animals **in the first degree** if the person intentionally or knowingly:
- (a) Tortures, mutilates, or poisons or causes the torture, mutilation, or poisoning of any pet animal or equine animal resulting in serious bodily injury or death of the pet animal or equine animal; or
- (b) Kills or attempts to kill any pet animal belonging to another person, without first obtaining legal authority or the consent of the pet animal's owner.
- (1) A person commits the offense of cruelty to animals in the second degree if the person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly:
- (a) Overdrives, overloads, tortures, torments, beats, causes substantial bodily injury to, or starves any animal, or causes the overdriving, overloading, torture, torment, beating, or starving of any animal;
- (b) Deprives a pet animal of necessary sustenance or causes such deprivation;
- (c) Mutilates, poisons, or kills without need any animal other than insects, vermin, or other pests; provided that the handling or extermination of any insect, vermin, or other pest is conducted in accordance with standard and acceptable pest control practices and all applicable laws and regulations;
- (d) Keeps, uses, or in any way is connected with or interested in the management of, or receives money for the admission of any person to, any place kept or used for the purpose of fighting or baiting any bull, bear, cock, or other animal, and includes every person who encourages, aids, or assists therein, or who permits or suffers any place to be so kept or used;
- (e) Carries or causes to be carried, in or upon any vehicle or other conveyance, any animal

in a cruel or inhumane manner;

- (f) Confines or causes to be confined, in a kennel or cage, any pet animal in a cruel or inhumane manner;
- (g) Tethers, fastens, ties, or restrains a dog to a doghouse, tree, fence, or any other stationary object by means of a choke collar, pinch collar, or prong collar; provided that a person is not prohibited from using such restraints when walking a dog with a hand-held leash or while a dog is engaged in a supervised activity; or
- (h) Assists another in the commission of any act specified in subsections (1)(a) through (1)(g).

And second, this proposed bill ignores further provisions on probable cause and allows warrantless searches in direct violation of amendment 4 of the US constitution and HRS 711-1109.1 (1) If there is probable cause to believe that a pet animal is being subjected to treatment in violation of section 711-1108.5, 711-1109, 711-1109.3, 711-1109.6, or 711-, a law enforcement officer, after obtaining a search warrant or in any other manner authorized by law, may enter the premises where the pet animal is located to provide the pet animal with food, water, and emergency medical treatment or to impound the pet animal. If after reasonable effort, the owner or person having custody of the pet animal cannot be found and notified of the impoundment, an impoundment notice shall be conspicuously posted on the premises and within seventy-two hours after posting, the notice shall be sent by certified mail to the address, if any, from which the pet animal was removed.

Thank you for this opportunity to voice the on-going collective concerns of Hawaiian Kennel Club and Hawaiian Hound Association members.

#### Affiliations:

Secretary, Hawaiian Kennel Club, AKC member club (HKC - 67 members)

President, Hawaiian Hound Association, AKC licensed limited breed club (HHA - 36 members)

Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, AKC member club (past Corr. Sec'y)

Rescue liaison, Irish Wolfhound Club of America

Curriculum Coordinator, Aiea High School

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 12:42 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: milo.whit@hotmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Loreen Furuyama

Organization: Individual

E-mail: milo.whit@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### TESTIMONY OPPOSING SB2492 SD 1

Testimony author: Wanda Yurong,

Kane'ohe, 35+ year resident

Hearing:

Committee on Judiciary

Date & Time:

March 13, 2012 @ 2:00 pm in room 325

Chairman Gilbert Keith-Agaran and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

I oppose the proposed legislation in SB2492 SD1.

Controlling the number of animals <u>does not remove</u> the threat of animal cruelty. Explain how owning 10 adult dogs makes anyone a dog breeder, why not a pig hunter? Such definitions are arbitrary and are not helpful in rooting out alleged puppy mill operators.

It is the character of people who participate in animal breeding, that controls the level of care under which these animals will be raised.

Those with pets or who exhibit at shows love and are proud of their animals and will always take the greatest care of them.

Those who are not attached to their pets will cut corners to save and make money when selling them.

The existing law is about animal cruelty; this proposed change is about dog breeding limits. How is dog breeding, animal cruelty? Animals are perfectly capable of reproducing on their own, and have done so without the aid of any legislation. I would hope our legislators had better things to do and better ways to spend tax dollars.

Thank you for your time.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

**Sent:** Sunday, March 11, 2012 11:05 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: care4petservices@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Tina Bounds Organization: Individual

E-mail: care4petservices@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 10:28 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: hawaiikimls@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Kim Staley

Organization: Hui Pono Holoholona E-mail: hawaiikimls@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 8:32 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: cdfeld1@hotmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Christopher Feld

Organization: Individual E-mail: cdfeld1@hotmail.com Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

STRONGLY OPPOSE!

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 8:41 PM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: cnc3@hawaii.edu

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Christin Matsushige

Organization: Individual E-mail: cnc3@hawaii.edu Submitted on: 3/11/2012

#### Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill. Companion animals are sentient beings, not commodities. Companion animals need and deserve humane treatment. Puppy Mills are an example of flagrant greed for money on the part of the suppliers, and of an ignorant public.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 8:52 PM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: oreotft@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Linda Yamada Organization: Individual E-mail: oreotft@gmail.com Submitted on: 3/11/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2012 8:56 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: honeybeartft@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Regan Yamada Organization: Individual

E-mail: honeybeartft@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 4:01 PM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: ran@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Winifred Nakatsu
Organization: Akita Club of Hawaii

E-mail: ran@hawaii.rr.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### Comments:

As a dog organization establish in 1975, we urge you to vote " NO" on Bill SB2492AD1. I really believe there is not enough knowledgeable animal people involved in the writing of this bill.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 11:26 AM

**To:** JUDtestimony **Cc:** octopus@maui.net

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Rene Umberger Organization: Individual E-mail: octopus@maui.net Submitted on: 3/12/2012

## TESTIMONY IN STRONG OPPOSITION TO SB2492 SD1

Testimony of: Charlotte Farmer

# As a longtime breeder and fancier of purebred dogs I oppose SB2494 SD1 for the following reasons and ask that the committee vote "NO" on this bill:

SB24942 SD1 is titled "Relating to Cruelty to Animals", however the standards of care fall under the definitions of consumer protection. If this is truly an animal cruelty law then it should apply to all animals, and all organizations including nonprofit, veterinary, and government. Additionally the definition of Animal Cruelty, as it is reflected in Hawaii Revised Standards does not apply to many of the standards of care outlined in this law. The content of this law relates to Breeder Licensing and Standards of Care for Owners of Ten or More Intact Dogs and not Animal Cruelty.

# SB2492 SD1 requires owners (or those in the possession) of ten or more dogs over the age of four months with intact sexual organs to meet minimum standards of care.

How will it be determined if female dogs are spayed or intact by those enforcing this law? If a veterinarian needs to be consulted and an ultra sound done to determine whether or not a female dog is intact, who will pay for this service? Record keeping, including vet records, would be required if you had over 10 intact animals. However, if your dogs were all spayed or neutered you legally would not be required to have these records on hand if an inspection is made. How are you going to prove your dogs are spayed? Additionally, wouldn't this apply to boarding kennels and doggie day care facilities?

# SB2492 SD1 applies to any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, limited liability company, corporation, estate, trust, receiver, or syndicate (exceptions include vet clinic; animal control or welfare agency tax exempt under 501(c3) person who provides care for dogs at the request of a government agency.

Corporation Officers and Directors would probably be shielded from criminal and civil convections. Although the courts convicted Bradley International (the Waimanalo Puppy Mill) of over 153 animal cruelty charges and hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines, the Corporation was dissolved and the officers were not held accountable or responsible. Additionally the Bradley International's General Manager was allowed to flee the state before charges were made and was able to circumvent punishment. Apparently the corporate structure is very difficult to overcome and even with these new laws, the outcome would have been the same in the Waimanalo Puppy Mill Case.

## SB2492 SD1 prohibits the ownership or custody of more than 30 dogs over the age of one year with intact sexual organs.

Honolulu City & County Zoning Laws already has established zoning restrictions on the number of dogs (10 is the maximum) in residential zoned areas. This bill would target agricultural and country zoned properties. Would boarding kennels be prevented from keeping more than 30 intact dogs? How would a boarding kennel be able to prove whether or not a dog was spayed or intact? Would there be a grandfather clause allowing those who have purchased agricultural or country land to keep the dogs currently residing on the premises? Would this additional restriction on zoning devalue the property's intended use and value?

## SB 2492 SD 1 Provides Numerous Standards of Care for Dogs:

"Regular exercise" means providing the dog with constant and unfettered access to an outdoor or indoor exercise area that provides at least four times the square footage of indoor floor space required for each dog pursuant to paragraph (3) of the definition of "sufficient housing or shelter".

This may mean that an outside door is always (constantly) left open which could possibly allow toads, mice, rats, insects into the kennel areas, or is a security risk. Most dog owners with multiple dogs keep their dogs in inside kennels at night or in crates. For a larger dog that is required to have 20 sq. feet of indoor floor space, this means the dog would need to have 80 sq. feet of additional outside or inside space as an exercise area. That is 100 sq. feet of area per dog which is the size of a normal bedroom. The argument may be made that the dogs all could have access to an outdoor exercise area but many dog owners do not let their dogs indiscriminately run together without supervision.

"Sufficient food and clean water" means access to adequate amounts of appropriately nutritious food to maintain good health; and continuous access to potable water that is substantially free from debris, feces, algae, and other contaminants.

How is "appropriately nutritious food" defined? Is it organic grain free kibble? Is it grocery store brand dog food? Is it food that has been processed in China? Is food which is nutritious for one breed considered nutritious for another breed? Some dogs have allergies to certain foods...would those dogs be considered abused if they were fed foods which they were allergic too?

## Following are definitions for the housing area:

- √ "Sufficient space for movement" means the following:
- √ (1) Sufficient indoor space for each dog to lie down and fully extend limbs and stretch freely without touching the sides of the enclosure or another dog, and to turn in a complete circle without any impediments, including a tether;
- √ (2) At least twelve inches of headroom above the head of the tallest dog in the enclosure when it is in a normal standing position; and
- √ (3) A square footage that includes at least:
- √ (A) Twelve square feet of indoor floor space for each dog that is no more than twenty-five inches in length;
- √ (B) Twenty square feet of indoor floor space for each dog that is no less than twenty-five inches and no more than thirty-five inches in length; and
- √ (C) Thirty square feet of indoor floor space for each dog that is more than thirtyfive inches in length; provided that the length of the dog shall be measured from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail.

The above requirements for choosing kennel space for each dog would take an engineer to decipher. In a single breed, dogs come in different shapes and sizes. Usually in a kennel facility, dogs are moved from kennel to kennel. A dog owner would have to measure the height and length of each dog to determine which kennel that dog could be housed in. This isn't just once, because dogs change as they grow older. The management of this type of requirement is not reasonable.

Standard of care; recordkeeping. (a) Any person who owns, possesses, controls, or otherwise has charge or custody of more than ten dogs over the age of four months with intact sexual organs shall provide the following for each dog:

- √ (1) Regular exercise;
- √ (2) Sufficient food and clean water;
- √ (3) Sufficient housing or shelter;
- √ (4) Sufficient space for movement;
- √ (5) Sufficient veterinary care; and
- √ (6) A microchip implanted under the skin;

It is not clear how this record keeping is to be done and the acceptable format for it. Is this done on a hourly, daily, or weekly basis (regarding food, water and exercise)? How detailed is the form? Is each dog listed on the form and each item checked off?

### Standards of Care for Breeding Dogs:

No person (with more than 10 intact dogs) shall breed any dog unless the dog is between the ages of 12 months and 8 years of age. No dog shall be bred to produce more than two litters in any eighteen month period.

Does this include male stud dogs? If there is a "mistake" breeding the dog owner would still be breaking the animal abuse laws. Most canine reproduction specialists have found that back to back breedings (possibly every 6 months) is recommended for a healthy female dog rather than skipping heat cycles over a long period of time. Most breeders will breed their females no more than three times. The normal age for breeding is after two years old when health clearances can be obtained. Most females are not bred after six years old. Every breed is different though and this decision should be made by the breeder and his/her vet.

No person who owns, possesses, controls, or otherwise has charge or custody of more than ten dogs over the age of four months with intact sexual organs shall breed any dog determined by a veterinarian to be unfit for breeding purposes.

What would be defined as "veterinarian's criteria"? Would it include clearances such as hip clearances, eye clearances, etc.? Would a dog which is on thyroid medication be considered "fit" for breeding? Would all veterinarians agree on what the "fitness" criteria is?

Prohibitions on certain types of dogs in the same enclosure. No person who owns, possesses, controls, or otherwise has charge or custody of more than ten dogs over the age of four months with intact sexual organs shall place: A dog with a vicious or aggressive disposition in an enclosure with another dog, except for breeding purposes

Does this mean that a vicious dog can be put in an enclosure with another dog if the dogs are to be bred? Should vicious or aggressive dogs be bred?

Puppies aged twelve weeks or younger in the same enclosure at the same time with other adult dogs, other than the dam or foster dam, unless under immediate and constant supervision.

Experts on dog behavior have repeatedly proven that proper puppy socialization includes contact and interaction with adult dogs. Many breeders allow their older puppies contact with gentle older dogs.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 2:54 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: orrie@hawaiiantel.net

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Orianna Skomoroch

Organization: Individual

E-mail: orrie@hawaiiantel.net

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### Comments:

I ask that you please support this bill to protect the animals that have suffered in the past in these deplorable conditions.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 3:14 PM

**To:** JUDtestimony Cc: jboyy55@aol.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Jason C Organization: Individual E-mail: jboyy55@aol.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 3:17 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: turtleandyellow@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: hollis ann stewart

Organization: Individual

E-mail: turtleandyellow@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 3:27 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: rcshanklin@hotmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Roland Shanklin

Organization: Individual

E-mail: rcshanklin@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 3:32 PM

**To:** JUDtestimony **Cc:** g2@hokua.org

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Ginny Tiu Organization: Individual E-mail: g2@hokua.org Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 1:16 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: Bethefrank@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Elizabeth Frank Organization: Individual E-mail: Bethefrank@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 1:23 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: jstanger@hawaiianhumane.org

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Jessica Stanger

Organization: Individual

E-mail: jstanger@hawaiianhumane.org

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 1:29 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: leannehong@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: LEANNE HONG Organization: Individual E-mail: leannehong@gmail.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 1:37 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: milojoanna@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: joanna milo Organization: Individual E-mail: milojoanna@yahoo.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 1:42 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: bonnieosaki@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Bonnie Osaki Organization: Individual

E-mail: bonnieosaki@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Testimony of Heidi A. Cregor, President of the Kerry Blue Terrier Club of Hawaii, in opposition to S.B. 2494 and S.B. 2492.

I and my organization, The Kerry Blue Terrier Club of Hawaii, oppose cruelty to animals in all forms, including "puppy mills", the very name of which conjures up images of large numbers of dogs, kept in confined, squalid conditions, whose only purpose in life is the production of puppies for profit. These mills are antithetical to everything I and my fellow "dog fanciers" stand for. I abhor these mills and support their being put out of business, yet, I believe that this proposed bill "paints with too broad a brush" and will have the unintended consequence of damaging those of us who truly promote the best interests of our dogs and our breeds.

The stated purpose of the bills is to regulate large scale, profit driven canine breeding operations. We do not fit under either category, yet we would be directly impacted by these bills. It is well known that the very best puppies for pets, for show, for obedience and other dog related events and competitions come from the small "mom and pop" breeders. We are the people who breed for the sheer love of dogs and attempt to improve our breeds, by gradually breeding better, stronger, healthier animals, free of genetic diseases, defects and temperament shortcomings. As hobby breeders we do it for the love of dogs and profit is not our motive. Most of us don't even break even on a litter of puppies, and we do not sell through pet stores. We get our reward when one of our puppies (usually no longer owned by us) goes on to win a Best in Show, or High in Obedience trial, or field trial champion or, simply earns us the congratulations of our peers. If you buy a puppy from one of us hobby breeders, you can be sure that the puppy has had hours of individual attention lavished upon him. We stand behind our puppies and most provide some type of guarantee to the buyer. If the puppy is not show quality, or more accurately, not of a quality to genetically promote the breed, we have the option under the rules of the American Kennel Club, to sell the puppy with a limited (cannot be bred) registration.

Most of us are very small scale, often going years between litters and only breeding when the time is right in all respects. I myself have had very few litters, yet I am considered a breeder by my peers. Even for small scale hobby breeders like me, the provisions of this bill can be too restrictive and oppressive. Having ten intact dogs may sound like a lot until one remembers that to be eligible to enter a dog show, the dogs must be intact. It should be no surprise that we don't discard our older dogs as they retire from the show ring. Many of us have several well-loved retired dogs enjoying the back yard. So, a litter of puppies can really run the numbers up, especially in some breeds that have large litters. Yes, most pet dogs are gone by four months of age, but a good responsible breeder will often keep better show prospect puppies much longer to see how they develop before selling them. And, yes, these puppies continue to receive the same time and attention lavished upon them until they move on out. The bottom line is that the time limits set forth in this draft bill can squeeze out the most responsible breeders.

I am not too sure whether or not unannounced, warrantless inspections are still a part of the current draft of the bills, but you must recognize that among people in my category, our "kennels" are our homes. An inspection, or search, or our kennels would likely intrude into our very bedrooms, a situation that I do not believe any lawmaker would sanction.

I heartily applaud your attempts to abolish puppy mills but do request your finding a way to exempt those of us who occasionally breed, not for profit, but for the love of the dogs and the improvement of our chosen breeds. We are the ones who are actually improving conditions for the dogs themselves and should not be trapped in a numbers game.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 3:49 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: pamirie@hotmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Pamela Irie Organization: Individual E-mail: pamirie@hotmail.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### Comments:

PLEASE vote YES to protect the animals. Mahalo!

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 2:02 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: inspirevision@aol.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Jane Shiraki Organization: Individual E-mail: inspirevision@aol.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### Comments:

Dear Legislators:

Please support SB2492. We recognize fully that dogs are not breeding machines, but awesome and wonderful sentient beings, friends, companions.

There is also too much suffering as a result of pet overpopulation. Because they have no voice, please ensure through legal means, that these dogs be protected with every kindness that a great pet owner would bestow on their own pet, it is only right, again, they are not machines and entitled to good, fulfilling lives, and nothing less.

Mahalo,

Jane Shiraki Honolulu

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 2:22 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: jacquelinejust@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Jacqueline Just

Organization: Individual

E-mail: jacquelinejust@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 2:26 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: diyonneinhawaii@yahoo.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: diyonne raines Organization: Individual

E-mail: diyonneinhawaii@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### Comments:

this is important, i am in support of this bill.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 2:40 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: contai@hotmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Charlyn Organization: Individual E-mail: contai@hotmail.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 2:43 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: allanschildknecht@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Allan Schildknecht

Organization: Individual

E-mail: allanschildknecht@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### Comments:

We urge you to support this bill.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 5:08 PM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: fenina@hawaii.edu

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Fenina Buttler Organization: Individual E-mail: fenina@hawaii.edu Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 5:19 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: waterkid@hotmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: caroline viola Organization: Individual E-mail: waterkid@hotmail.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 5:32 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: sweinrich7@aol.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Sandra M Weinrich

Organization: Individual E-mail: sweinrich7@aol.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2012 5:58 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: Ifowler@hawaiianhumane.org

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Lisa Fowler Organization: Individual

E-mail: lfowler@hawaiianhumane.org

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 7:29 PM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: pikrik94@aol.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Pam kutaka Organization: Individual E-mail: pikrik94@aol.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 8:04 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: Manoawinds@rocketmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Barbara Yoshimura

Organization: Individual

E-mail: Manoawinds@rocketmail.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 8:57 PM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: suyin@hawaii.edu

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Suyin Phillips Organization: Individual E-mail: suyin@hawaii.edu Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### Comments:

Let's protect consumers and innocent animals from another Waimanalo puppy mill horror!

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 9:06 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: TECH409@YAHOO.COM

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: JOHNNY KELLY Organization: Individual E-mail: TECH409@YAHOO.COM Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE BILLS!

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 9:21 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: solsticestandardpoodles@hotmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: LaDean Gordon Organization: Individual

E-mail: solsticestandardpoodles@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### Comments:

I support this bill even as a breeder in Hawaii provided 2 things are amended in these lines as follows:

- (1) Regular exercise;
- (2), Sufficient food and clean water;
- (3) Sufficient housing or shelter;
- (4) Sufficient space for movement;
- (5) Sufficient veterinary care; and
- (6) A microchip implanted under the skin;

provided that no microchip shall be implanted in any dog aged less than four months.

(b) No person who owns, possesses, controls, or otherwise has charge or custody of more than ten dogs over the age of four months with intact sexual organs shall breed any dog unless the dog is between the ages of twelve months and eight years of age. No dog shall be bred to produce more than two litters in any eighteen month period. No person who owns, possesses, controls, or otherwise has charge or custody of more than ten dogs over the age of four months with intact sexual organs shall breed any dog determined by a veterinarian to be unfit for breeding purposes.

\*\*\*The word Dog be changed either to Bitch or Breeding female, because the same health issues to not apply to a dog producing more then 2 litters in an 18 month period as would a bitch/breeding female

\*\*\*Also...the age for chip implantation be changed from 4 months to 2 months because some breeders such as myself want ALL puppies we sell to be microchipped...this if passed would force us to have to hold onto and not allow families to take puppies home till after 4 months because we feel we MUST chip before they leave our home.

If these amendments are made... I am happy to support this bill

Thank you

LaDean Gordon Solstice Standard Poodles

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 9:47 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: ddanson1@hotmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: d danson Organization: Individual E-mail: ddansonl@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 9:58 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: Ktntt@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Stacey Shimomura

Organization: Individual E-mail: Ktntt@hawaii.rr.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 10:23 PM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: ulloa@hawaii.edu

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Jackie Ulloa Organization: Individual E-mail: ulloa@hawaii.edu Submitted on: 3/12/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 11:53 PM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: stacykt@hawaii.edu

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Stacy Takekawa Organization: Individual E-mail: stacykt@hawaii.edu Submitted on: 3/12/2012

#### **Testimony of Michael Chang**

#### Before the Hawaii State Legislature's Committee on Judiciary

#### Regarding SB2492, RELATING TO ANIMAL CRUELTY

On March 13, 2012

Chairs Keith-Agaran and Herkes and respective committee members,

I am Michael Chang, owner of Ko`olau Bed and Biscuit, a boarding kennel, and I am testifying in favor of SB2492 with amendments.

I have not previously submitted any testimony on this bill as I am completely new to the legislative process and only last week was advised by a fellow boarding kennel owner that this bill, in all of its good intentions to clean up the "puppy mill" industry, would also impact us.

The best analogy to describe our boarding kennel is that we are a hotel for dogs. While the vast majority of our customers are families who are traveling and need someone to care for their dogs, there are other cases where a dog's owner may not able to care for their dogs for a limited time period due to extenuating circumstances such having a temporary medical condition, having their home fumigated or doing major renovations on their home.

The number of dogs under our care range from three during our slow times and up to fifty during the three week period that encompass Christmas and the New Year. Our yearly average is fifteen a day,

Some dogs stay just over night, while at other times they have stayed as long as three months. In the case of our "doggie daycare" service, where our customers drop off their dogs in the morning and pick them up after work, the dogs are only there for a matter of hours. The average length of stay on an annual basis is four days.

We neither breed dogs, nor sell dogs, yet the language in this bill does not provide any differentiation between our type of business and a "puppy mill."

I would like to request that an additional item be listed under "Person" in the DEFINITIONS section to read something to the effect of: "(4) Boarding kennels that prohibit dog breeding and do not sell dogs."

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 1:34 AM

To: JUDtestimony
Cc: owlit1@gmail.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325 Testifier position:

Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Frances Pueo

Organization: Hui Pono Holoholona

E-mail: owlit1@gmail.com Submitted on: 3/13/2012

#### Comments:

I Frances Pueo, support SB2492 SD1, We must make regulation (as part of animal protection) for those who owns, control, or have custody or control of ten or more dogs over age four months with intact sexual organs to meet minimum standards of care to ensure the proper treatment and care of dogs and the dogs' offspring. Prohibits any person from owning or having custody of more than thirty dogs over age of one year with intact sexual organs. Requires specified persons to maintain specific records for each dog for at least three years following the death of the dog or a date on which the person permanently ceased to have possession or control of the dog. Prohibits certain types of dogs in the same enclosure. When it comes to monies to be gain, animals will be exploited.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 5:45 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: bsawyer@hawaiianhumane.org

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: BSawyer

Organization:

E-mail: bsawyer@hawaiianhumane.org

Submitted on: 3/13/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 7:30 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: kdavid19@msn.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Kristin Davidson

Organization: Individual E-mail: kdavid19@msn.com Submitted on: 3/13/2012

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 8:01 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: Barbarak@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Oppose Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Barbara Krasniewski

Organization: Individual

E-mail: Barbarak@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 3/13/2012

#### Comments:

I strongly oppose SB2492 and request this committee to vote against this legislation. The bill was drafted without input from all interested groups. This is NOT the way to produce good bills. Please defer this measure, convene a task force to produce a workable and sensible bill and then proceed. Do not pass this very one-sided, unrealistic and unmanable bill. It is flawed in numerous areas and will not put heinous puppy mills out of business. It will, however, force responsible breeders out and leave Hawaii with no option but to import quality dogs from other countries or the Mainland.

Do not pass this short sighted bill.

Thank you. Barbara Krasniewski Responsible dog owner

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 8:49 AM

To: JUDtestimony

Cc: faithlebb@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony for JUD 3/13/2012 2:00:00 PM SB2492

Conference room: 325

Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: faith lebb Organization: Individual

E-mail: faithlebb@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 3/13/2012